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Claims

- [001] An identification system for controlling access to a resource, the system including: one or more objects (100, 202, 310) each hosting an electronic tag (102, 204, 306); a reading means (106); and a data system (108); the electronic tag (102, 204, 306) having stored identification data (104) readable by the reading means (106) for processing by the data system (108), and the identification system having registration means for registering a set of identification data (212, 312) for one or more electronic tags (102, 204, 306), wherein a user (200, 300) is permitted access to the resource when the user (200, 300) has in his possession at least one of the objects (100, 202, 310) hosting an electronic tag (102, 204, 306) with registered identification data (104).
- [002] An identification system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the resource is one of the group of a place, an object, data, information, payment means, or authority to act.
- [003] An identification system as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the electronic tags (102, 204, 306) are radio frequency identification tags.
- [004] An identification system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the user (200, 300) is permitted access to the resource when all the electronic tags in the registered set are present.
- [005] An identification system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the user (200, 300) is permitted access to the resource when a sub-set of the electronic tags in the registered set is present.
- [006] An identification system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein a reading means (106) is provided at a point of access to the resource and the reading means (106) automatically identifies the tag identification data (104) and seeks authorisation from the data system (108).
- [007] An identification system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the registration means includes authentication means for authentication of the user.
- [008] An identification system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the authentication means uses public key infrastructure (308).
- [009] An identification system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the registered set of identification data (212, 312) has a reference (208).
- [010] An identification system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the reference (208) is the tag identification data (104) of one of the registered set of identification data (212, 312) selected according to predefined selection criteria.
- [011] An identification system as claimed in claim 10, wherein the predefined selection criteria include the type of object in which the tag is hosted and a count of the

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sorted identification data.

- [012] An identification system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the registration means generates a record (206, 308) of the set of registered identification data (212, 312) the record including a reference to the user (208, 314), and one or more attributes (210) of the user (200, 300).
- [013] An identification system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the user (200, 300) is identified by reading the identification data (104) of the tags (102, 204, 306) in his possession and referring to the record (206, 308) in the data system (108).
- [014] An identification system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the data system (108) is accessible via a network.
- [015] An identification system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein there is provided an interface for the registration means for confirming the registered set of identification data (212, 312).
- [016] An identification system as claimed in claim 15, wherein the registration means has a default for accepting or rejecting identification data of tags hosted in predefined types of objects.
- [017] An identification system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the objects (100, 202, 310) are objects habitually carried on a person including clothing, personal effects, and consumables.
- [018] An identification system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the registered set has an expiry time.
- [019] An identification method comprising: registering a set of identification data (212, 312) for one or more electronic tags (102, 204, 306), each tag being hosted in an object (100, 202, 310); a user (200, 300) carrying one or more of the objects (100, 202, 310); scanning a user (200, 300) to read the identification data (104) of the electronic tags (102, 204, 306) hosted in the objects (100, 202, 310) being carried by the user (200, 300); comparing the scanned identification data (104) with the registered identification data (212, 312); and permitting access by the user (200, 300) to a resource if the scanned identification data is a sub-set of the registered identification data (212, 312).
- [020] An identification method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the resource is one of the group of a place, an object, data, information, payment means, or authority to act.
- [021] An identification method as claimed in claim 19 or claim 20, wherein the electronic tags (100, 202, 310) are radio frequency identification tags.
- [022] An identification method as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 21, wherein the user (200, 300) is permitted access to the resource when all the electronic tags (102, 204, 306) in the registered set are present.

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- [023] An identification method as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 22, wherein the user (200, 300) is permitted access to the resource when any sub-set of the electronic tags (102, 204, 306) in the registered set are present.
- [024] An identification method as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 23, wherein the step of registering includes authentication of a user (200, 300).
- [025] An identification method as claimed in claim 24, wherein the authentication uses public key infrastructure (308).
- [026] An identification method as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 25, wherein the step of registering a set of identification data (212, 312) includes providing a reference (208) to the set.
- [027] An identification method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the reference (208) is the tag identification data (104) of one of the registered set of identification data (212, 312) selected according to predefined selection criteria.
- [028] An identification method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the predefined selection criteria include the type of object in which the tag is hosted and a count of the sorted identification data.
- [029] An identification method as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 28, wherein the registration generates a record (206, 308) of the set of registered identification data (212, 312), the record including a reference to the user (208, 314), and one or more attributes (210) of the user.
- [030] An identification method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the user (200, 300) is identified by scanning the identification data (104) of the tags in his possession and referring to the record (206, 308).
- [031] An identification method as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 30, wherein the registered set of identification data (212, 312) is accessible via a network.
- [032] An identification method as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 31, wherein the step of registering includes the user (200, 300) confirming the registered set of identification data.
- [033] An identification method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the step of registering includes defaulting to accept or reject identification data of tags hosted in predefined types of objects.
- [034] An identification method as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 33, wherein the objects (100, 202, 310) are objects habitually carried on a person including clothing, personal effects, and consumables.
- [035] An identification method as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 34, wherein the step of registering is repeated at time intervals.
- [036] An identification system for controlling access to a resource, the system including: an object (100, 202, 310) hosting an electronic tag (102, 204, 306); a

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reading means (106); and a data system (108); the electronic tag (102, 204, 306) having stored identification data (104) readable by the reading means (106) for processing by the data system (108), and wherein a user (200, 300) is permitted access to the resource when the user has in his possession the object (100, 202, 310) hosting the electronic tag (102, 204, 306).

[037] An identification service comprising: registering a set of identification data (212, 312) for one or more electronic tags (102, 204, 306), each tag being hosted in an object (100, 202, 310); a user (200, 300) carrying one or more of the objects (100, 202, 310); scanning a user (200, 300) to read the identification data (104) of the electronic tags (102, 204, 306) hosted in the objects (100, 202, 310) being carried by the user (200, 300); comparing the scanned identification data (104) with the registered identification data (212, 312); and permitting access by the user (200, 300) to a resource if the scanned identification data is a sub-set of the registered identification data (212, 312).